

REMARKS

Claims 11 and 12 were pending. By this Amendment, claim 11 is amended. Reconsideration and allowance of pending claims 11 and 12 are respectfully solicited in view of this Amendment and the following remarks.

On October 7, 2003, Applicants filed this divisional application. Included with this divisional filing was a PTO-1449 listing all prior art cited during the prosecution of the parent application nos. 10/151,983 and 09/643,713. Applicants respectfully request the return of the initialed PTO-1449.


Claims 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Mimata (US 6,070,146) in view of Kimata (US 5,043,561). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Amended claim 11 recites, among other recitations, “[a] ticket processing terminal carried by a trainman in a train.” In contrast, the automatic ticket examination machine 60 disclosed in Mimata is installed in a station rather than carried by a trainman in a train (see Mimata, FIG. 3 and col. 5, lines 62-63 (“examination machines 60 provided at an entrance of facilities”)). Kimata also fails to disclose a ticket processing terminal carried by a trainman in a train. Accordingly, neither Mimata nor Kimata nor their combination disclose or suggest the combination of recitations in amended claim 11. Similarly, amended claim 11 recites, among other recitations, “a processing unit for changing the boarding data of which change is directed by the operation unit through wireless communication with a control center outside the train.” Neither Mimata nor Kimata nor their combination disclose or suggest wireless communication between an operation unit and a control center. Applicants therefore respectfully request the withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of claim 11 as well as its dependent claim 12, which is allowable at least because it incorporates the subject matter of allowable claim 11.

Having addressed all of the Examiner's rejections, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, an early notice of which is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP


BENJAMIN L. KIERSZ
Reg. No. 51875
Tel. No. (703) 905-2114
Fax No. (703) 905-2500

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P.O. Box 10500
McLean, VA 22102
(703) 905-2000